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SECRET WARS

THE MULTIVERSE WAS DESTROYED!

•

THE HEROES OF EARTH-616 AND EARTH-1610 WERE POWERLESS TO SAVE IT!

•

NOW, ALL THAT REMAINS...IS

BATTLEWORLD

•

A MASSIVE, PATCHWORK PLANET COMPOSED OF THE FRAGMENTS OF WORLDS THAT NO LONGER EXIST, MAINTAINED BY THE IRON WILL OF ITS GOD AND MASTER: VICTOR VON DOOM!

EACH REGION IS A DOMAIN UNTO ITSELF!

• SOLDIER SUPREME •

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• M.O.D.O.K. MADNESS •

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BATTLEWORLD JOURNAL ENTRY 129. 2099.
The world of tomorrow is as good a place as any to die.
Lived through too many last stands recently.
The Four have been tracking me across all the territories of Battleworld for as long as I can remember.
Ever since that damn DOCTOR STRANGE hitched his soul wagon to my body after some vampires took a bite out of him.
AND I WILL BE ETERNALLY GRATEFUL FOR THAT, MY FRIEND.
BUT OUR SITUATION DOESN'T NEED TO BE SO DIRE, FRANK. WE CAN KEEP MOVING. OUR OPTIONS ARE--
SHUT IT, STRANGE.
UNDER THE IRON FIST OF DOOM IS NO WAY TO LIVE.
HEY, CASTLE!

UGH!

HOW ABOUT UNDER MINE?!

SMASH!

YOU'RE TO STAND TRIAL FOR YOUR *CRIMES* IN HIGH COURT, PUNISHER!

THE INFERNAL FOUR: Hounds of Limbo created when a Hulk, a Ghost Rider, a Wolverine and a Spider-Man were trapped in the Demonic Domain.

In another life, I might have been friends with them... if they weren't such corrupt bastards.

WHAT'S THE CHARGE?!

YOU'VE BEEN CROSSING *BORDERS!*

EVEN A JOKER WITHOUT A *KINGDOM* SUCH AS YOU KNOWS THAT'S A FAST TRACK TO THE *TIME-OUT CORNER!*

THE HIGH COURT WILL JUST BANISH ME TO THE DEADLANDS...

SO WHY DON'T WE JUST HAVE IT OUT *NOW* AND SAVE THE TRIP?

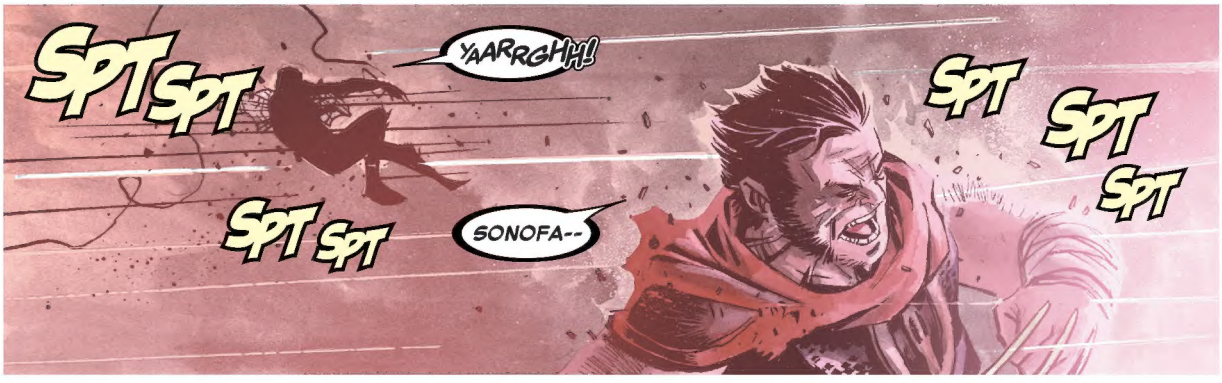
WORD FROM DOOM IS TO BRING YOU IN *ALIVE.*

AND DOOM'S WORD IS THE WORD OF *GOD.*

SEE...THAT'S WHERE WE HAVE OURSELVES A PROBLEM.

THERE IS JUST ENOUGH *SPIT AND VINEGAR* LEFT IN ME TO MAKE SURE THAT I GO OUT...

BANG
BANG
BANG
BANG
IN A BLAZE OF GLORY!
BANG BANG
BANG BANG


SPT SPT
YAARRGHH!
SPT
SPT
SPT
SPT SPT
SONOFA--

GO!
IT ISN'T SAFE FOR YOU TO BE IN THIS CROSSFIRE!
WHERE THE SHOCK IS THE PUBLIC EYE?!
THOSE TOOLS WOULDN'T SAVE A LOWER LEVEL LIKE YOU! NOW GET OUT OF--
FANCY MAGIC, CASTLE!

BUT HULK IS THE STRONGEST ONE THERE--
SNAP
CALM.

WHERE AM I?! WHAT--
SORRY, BANNER.

AAAHH!
DUST.

YOU'RE A DEAD MAN!
WE ALMOST HAD YOU IN THE MONARCHY OF M!

NO. YOU DIDN'T.
SNAP
ICE.

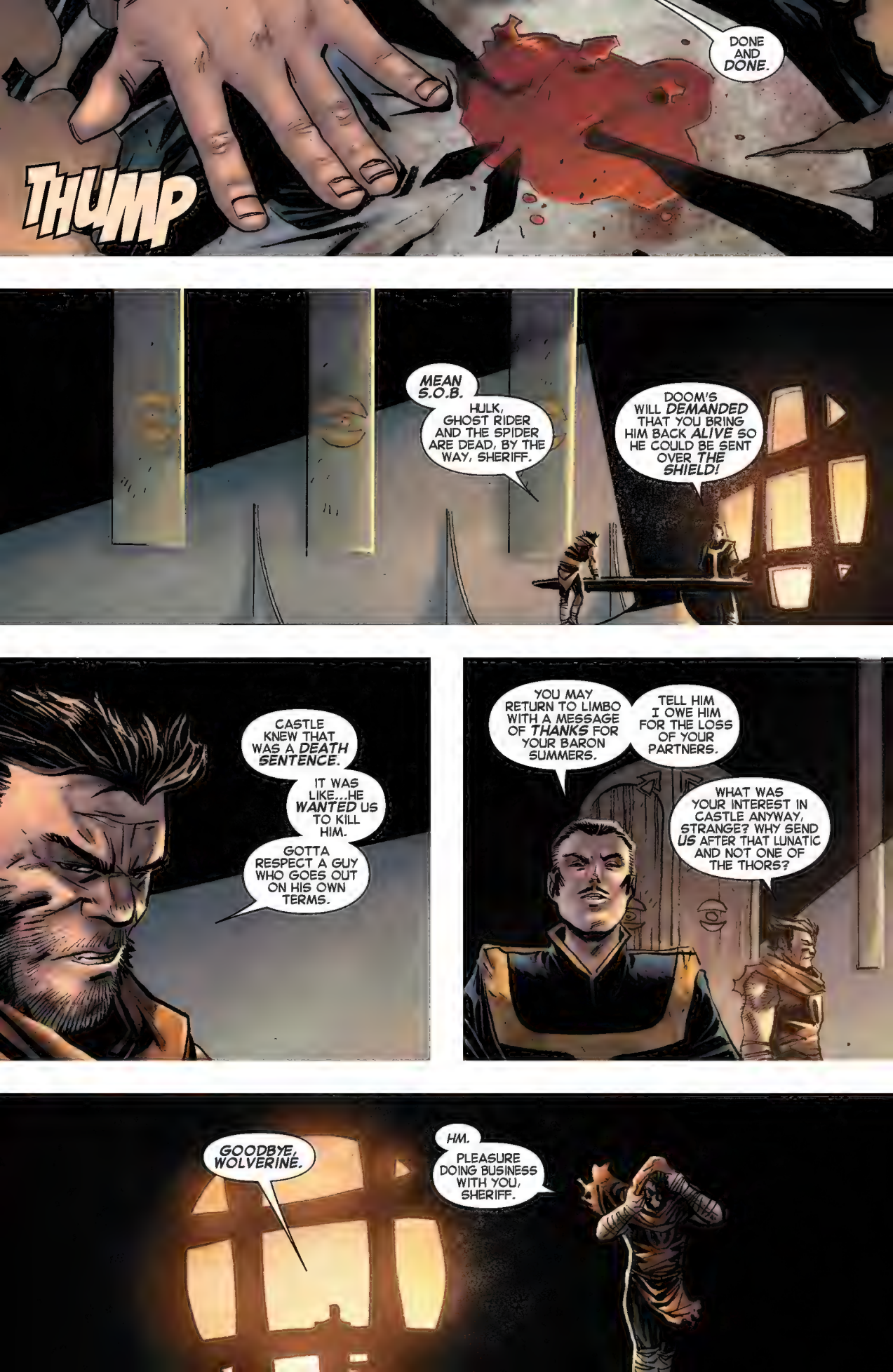
ROCKET OF RAGGADORR!
SSKKRRRT

BOOM!
KRTRCH!!
THAT ALL YOU GOT?!
THOUGHT YOU'D BE THE ONES TO FINALLY PUT ME OUTTA MY--
THIS WHAT YOU WANT, BUB?!
URK--
SLAT!
IT'LL TAKE A LOT MORE THAN ASTRAL BULLETS TO TAKE ME OUT OF THE FIGHT!
DON'T MAKE ME END YOU, CASTLE!
YOU MIGHT BE A QUICK HEALER BUT YOU'VE ALWAYS BEEN A SLOW LEARNER, WOLVERINE.

RRAGH!
SLSH! SLSH! SLSH! SLSH! SLSH!
SLSH! SLSH! SLSH! SLSH! SLSH!
LET ME HELP YOU! SAY THE FOLLOWING SPELL... CURA TE--
NO!
SLSH!
RARGH!
FWASH
CASTLE! IF YOU DO THIS, YOU'LL KILL US BOTH!
RATHER DIE ON MY FEET THAN BE FRESH MEAT IN THE DEADLANDS.
SEE YA ON THE OTHER SIDE, STRANGE.
WHO IN DOOM'S NAME ARE YOU TALKING TO, SOLDIER?!
NO ONE. NOT ANYMORE.
DONE TALKING TO YOU AS WELL, RUNT.
WEAPON OF WATOOMB!
CK

THOOM-BOOM!

CASTLE DOOM.


THUMP
DONE AND DONE.
MEAN S.O.B.
HULK, GHOST RIDER AND THE SPIDER ARE DEAD, BY THE WAY, SHERIFF.
DOOM'S WILL DEMANDED THAT YOU BRING HIM BACK ALIVE SO HE COULD BE SENT OVER THE SHIELD!
CASTLE KNEW THAT WAS A DEATH SENTENCE.
IT WAS LIKE...HE WANTED US TO KILL HIM.
GOTTA RESPECT A GUY WHO GOES OUT ON HIS OWN TERMS.
YOU MAY RETURN TO LIMBO WITH A MESSAGE OF THANKS FOR YOUR BARON SUMMERS.
TELL HIM I OWE HIM FOR THE LOSS OF YOUR PARTNERS.
WHAT WAS YOUR INTEREST IN CASTLE ANYWAY, STRANGE? WHY SEND US AFTER THAT LUNATIC AND NOT ONE OF THE THORS?
GOODBYE, WOLVERINE.
HM.
PLEASURE DOING BUSINESS WITH YOU, SHERIFF.

CASTLE MIGHT HAVE ACCEPTED THAT IT WAS HIS TIME TO PASS ON, BUT I HAVEN'T.
AN IMMORTAL BODY LIKE YOURS WILL INSURE THAT I LIVE TO FIGHT FOREVER.
IF YOU TRY TO RESIST ME, I'LL MAKE YOUR LIFE A LIVING HELL.

YOU WANT TO KNOW ABOUT HELL...?
WAIT UNTIL WE GET HOME TO INFERNO.
END.

TOP SECRET A.I.M. LABORATORY
THE IRON.
THE WARZONE.
AT LAST!
FOR TOO LONG HAVE I RELIED ON THE ASSISTANCE OF LESS-THAN-ADEQUATE MINIONS. CONSTANTLY FAILING ONLY BECAUSE NONE ARE ABLE TO MATCH M.O.D.O.K.'S* INTELLECT, CUNNING OR DRIVE.
BUT NO MORE!
*MENTAL ORGANISM DESIGNED ONLY FOR KILLING --J.O.N.
ACTIVATE THE TARLETON TRANSPORTER!
YES, SUPREME LEADER!
I HOPE YOU CHOKE ON IT, JERK.
CHNK

FINALLY, I WILL HAVE THE AID OF THE ONLY ENTITY GUARANTEED NOT TO FAIL. THE ONLY BEING IN WHICH I CAN PLACE MY FULL TRUST...
...MYSELF!
WHAT IS THE MEANING OF THIS? WHY HAVE YOU BROUGHT ME HERE AND WHY DO YOU SEEM SO...FAMILIAR?
IT CANNOT BE!
MY SPIDER SENSORS' READINGS ARE HIGHLY ERRATIC!
DADDY! YOU'VE FINALLY COME FOR ME!

GREETINGS! WHILE YOU TAKE A MOMENT TO ACCLIMATIZE YOURSELVES TO YOUR NEW SURROUNDINGS, DO ALLOW ME TO ADDRESS THE QUESTION THAT MUST SURELY BE ON YOUR MUCH ADVANCED AND HIGHLY INTELLECTUAL MINDS.
I HAVE BROUGHT YOU HERE SO THAT WE MAY WORK TOGETHER--UNDER MY LEADERSHIP, OF COURSE--TO SET STRAIGHT ONE OF THE GREATEST INJUSTICES ACROSS ALL OF BATTLEWORLD.
WE ARE GOING TO USURP DOOM AND TAKE OVER AS THE ONE TRUE AND SUPREME LORD OF BATTLEWORLD.
HOW CAN WE *ALL* BE THE *ONE* TRUE AND SUPREME LORD? MATHEMATICALLY, THAT DOES NOT EQUATE.
CONSIDERING THAT THIS INGENIOUS PLAN IS ONE OF MY OWN DEVISING, IT STANDS TO REASON THAT IT SHALL BE *I* WHO IS THE ONE TRUE AND SUPREME LORD.
THE REST OF YOU MAY BE BARONS TO YOUR OWN WORLDS. WHICH, I MAY REMIND YOU, IS NO SMALL HONOR.
THE INADEQUACIES IN THIS PLAN ARE AN EMBARRASSMENT. LET ME EXPLAIN IN A WAY THAT EVEN A *LESS EVOLVED M.O.D.O.K.*, SUCH AS YOURSELF, CAN UNDERSTAND.

FIRST: EVEN YOU MUST UNDERSTAND THE ABSOLUTE HUBRIS IN CONCOCTING A PLAN WHERE YOU WOULD SEEK TO DISPLACE GOD.
TO SAY THAT YOU ARE OVERREACHING WOULD BE AN UNDERSTATEMENT.
SECOND: YOU WILL SOON LEARN--ONCE YOU EVOLVE AS MUCH AS I HAVE--THAT IT IS BETTER TO WORK WITHIN THE SYSTEM THAN IT IS TO CONSTANTLY WORK AGAINST IT.
DURING MY YEARS WORKING WITH S.H.I.E.L.D., I LEARNED TH--
S.H.I.E.L.D.?!

YOU JOINED THE ENEMY!
THEY WERE FRIENDS. ALLIES.
AND YOU CALL YOURSELF EVOLVED?!
AND MATURED. YES.
YOU CONFUSE BEING MATURED WITH BECOMING LESS FIRM THAN THE EXCREMENT OF A SMALL HUMAN CHILD! YOU ARE A DISGRACE TO THE M.O.D.O.K. MONIKER.
PLEASE...

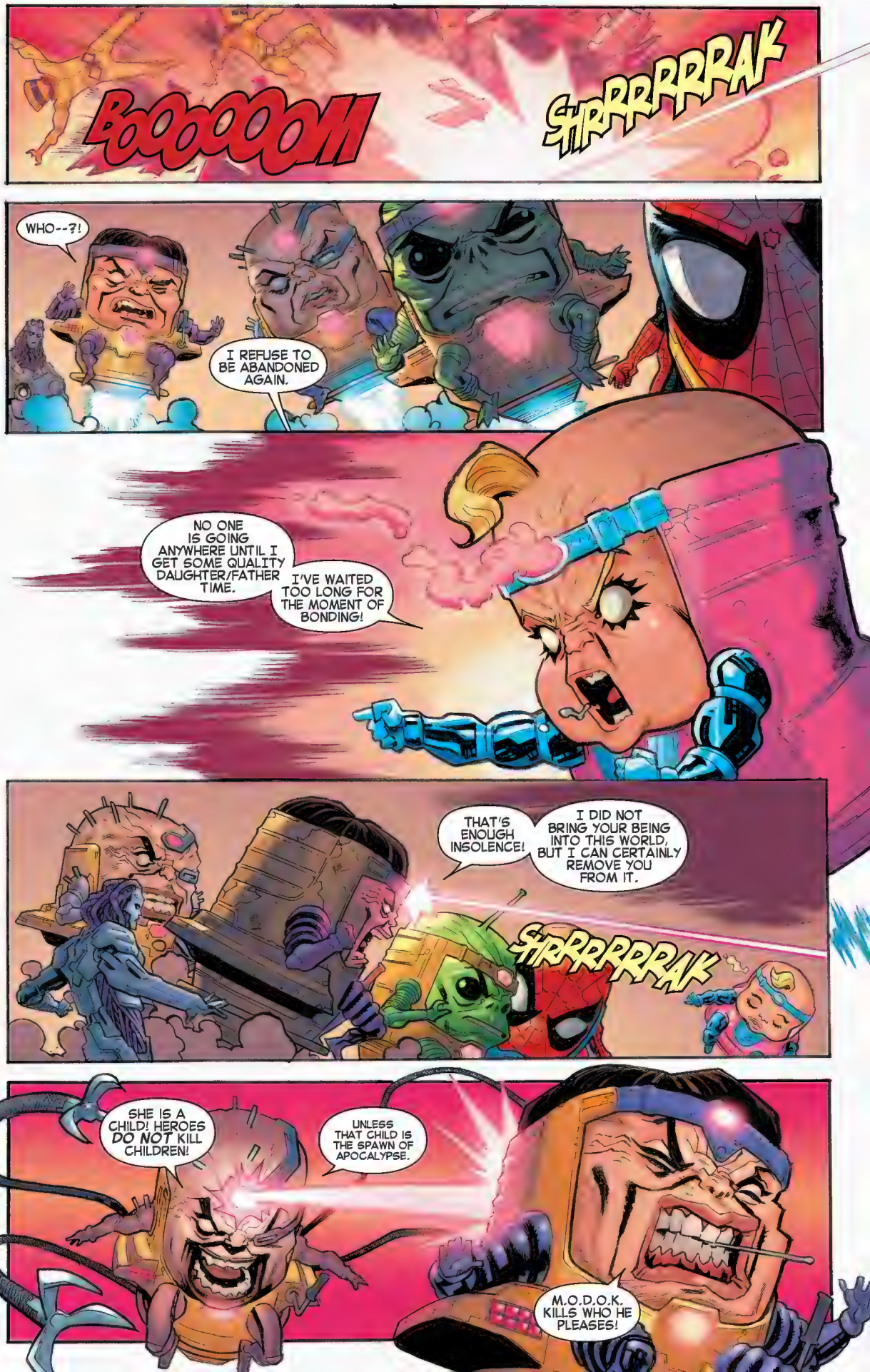
IF ANY WERE TO REPRESENT A MORE ADVANCED AND EVOLVED VERSION OF A M.O.D.O.K., IT WOULD SURELY BE ME.
AT LEAST I WAS DESIGNED WITH THE ABILITY TO CARRY OUT SIMPLE TASKS, SUCH AS WALKING THROUGH STANDARD DOORWAYS.

PERHAPS WE COULD ALL TAKE A MOMENT? COLLECT OURSELVES?
I'M WITH FUTURE M.O.D.O.K., WE CAN BE A FORCE FOR GOOD.
ENOUGH BICKERING!

THERE ARE MORE IMPORTANT MATTERS AT HAND. TO START: HOW IS THAT YOU'VE MANAGED TO CAPTURE FIRE INSIDE GLASS IN ORDER TO ILLUMINATE THIS WONDERFUL LABORATORY! WITH THIS KNOWLEDGE I CAN RULE THE KINGDOM OF--
SHUT UP!

DADDY!
HUH?

KILL THEM, DADDY.
KILL THEM AND YOU AND I WILL TOPPLE DOOM TOGETHER! WITH ME AT YOUR SIDE, YOU CAN RULE ALL OF BATTLEWORLD!
WHICH ONE OF YOU IMBECILES SIRED THIS ABOMINATION?
M.O.D.O.K. IS A LEADER, NOT A BREEDER!
WHY WON'T YOU ACKNOWLEDGE ME? WHY MUST YOU DENY YOUR PROGENY?
CLEARLY THIS PLAN IS FRAUGHT WITH ERROR.
THIS IS WHAT M.O.D.O.K. GETS FOR BELIEVING IN HIMSELF!
SEND THEM BACK! TRANSPORT THIS COLOSSAL CROWD OF CALAMITY BACK FROM WHENCE THEY CAME!
PLEASE... PLEASE, BEFORE YOU VANQUISH US, YOU MUST TELL ME...
...DO WE EVER SOLVE THE BODILY WASTE EXCAVATION ISSUE WITH OUR SUIT?
...
YES, SUPREME LEADER!


BOOOOOOOM
SHRRRRRRRAK
WHO--?!
I REFUSE TO BE ABANDONED AGAIN.
NO ONE IS GOING ANYWHERE UNTIL I GET SOME QUALITY DAUGHTER/FATHER TIME.
I'VE WAITED TOO LONG FOR THE MOMENT OF BONDING!
THAT'S ENOUGH INSOLENCE!
I DID NOT BRING YOUR BEING INTO THIS WORLD, BUT I CAN CERTAINLY REMOVE YOU FROM IT.
SHRRRRRRRAK
SHE IS A CHILD! HEROES DO NOT KILL CHILDREN!
UNLESS THAT CHILD IS THE SPAWN OF APOCALYPSE.
M.O.D.O.K. KILLS WHO HE PLEASES!

I'M NOT SURE WHICH OF YOU SICKENS ME MORE. THE ONE WHO WOULD SIDE WITH S.H.I.E.L.D....
...OR THE ONE WHO THINKS SO HIGHLY OF HIMSELF THAT HE WOULD DARE GO AFTER A GOD.
A GOD WHO DESERVES OUR RESPECT AND DEVOTION!
UNFF!
I HAD FORGOTTEN WHAT A POMPOUS ASS I ONCE WAS!
THWIP!
PLEASE! LET'S ALL JUST CALM DOWN A MOMENT AND--
SHOOOOOOM
SHUT UP, NOBODY EVEN CARES ABOUT YOU!

IT'S TIME TO DEAL WITH MY DADDY ISSUES!
SHOOOOM SHOOOOM
SHOOOOM SHOOOOM

LATER.
ANOTHER LAND, ANOTHER A.I.M. FACILITY, HIDDEN AWAY LIKE SOME SORT OF DIRTY SECRET.
IT IRKS ME HOW FREQUENTLY WE ARE CALLED UPON BY SHERIFF STRANGE TO MANAGE THIS WORLD'S MANY M.O.D.O.K.S. WE SHOULD SEND THEM ALL TO THE OTHER SIDE OF THE SHIELD AND BE DONE WITH THIS NUISANCE.
I CANNOT DISAGREE, BUT IT IS NOT OUR PLACE TO QUESTION STRANGE, FOR HE ACTS UPON THE WILL OF GOD DOOM, THE ALL-FATHER.
TRUE. BUT STILL, IF I NEVER HAVE TO SEE M.O.D.O.K.'S VOLUMINOUS, REPELLENT FACE AGAIN, IT SHALL BE NONE TOO SOON.
DO YOU THINK IT NOT ODD THAT THERE SEEMS TO BE NO SECURITY? NO HORDES OF A.I.M. AGENTS SENT TO GREET US IN BATTLE?
I WAS RATHER LOOKING FORWARD TO THE FIGHT.
VERILY.
M.O.D.O.K.? SHOW YOURSELF!
FOR THE CRIME OF HERESY, YOU HAVE BEEN--
BY THE ALL-FATHER...

THE THOR CORPS. OF COURSE YOU WOULD APPEAR AT A TIME LIKE THIS.
ALL I DESIRED WAS TO KNOW THE SECRET OF ALCHEMY. PLEASE SEND ME BACK FROM THIS HEDONISTIC FUTURE STATE OF--
SILENCE, YOU BABBLING HORSE'S ASS!
I GIVE UP.
PUT ME OUT OF MY MISERY AND SPARE ME FROM MYSELF.
THE END!

SECRET WARS

BATTLEWORLD

ONE vs. MANY (HULKS)!